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Ike 'Appalled' at What He'll Need to Know, Truman Says

BY LAURENCE BURD

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, Nov. 21—President Truman today described President Elect Eisenhower as "rather appalled" during Tuesday's White House meeting to find how much the chief executive needs to know.

Mr. Truman made the comment in a talk to a group of 300 federal employees attending a central intelligence agency orientation course dealing with secret data. The White House released portions of his talk after deleting references to secret material.

"I don't think anyone realizes the immensity of the problems that face a President of the United States," Mr. Truman said.

"It was my privilege a few days ago to brief the general who is going to take over the office on the 20th day of January, and he was rather appalled at all that the President needs to know in order to reach decisions, even domestic decisions."

Compares Power to Napoleon's

A President, Mr. Truman went on, has a "tremendous responsibility" and "must know exactly what is implied by what he does." He said the chief executive makes decisions every day that may

affect from 100 million to a billion and a half people.

He called the Presidency "the most powerful office" in history and said the nation's chief executive has greater responsibilities than past rulers, including Genghis Khan, Augustus Caesar, Napoleon Bonaparte, and Louis the 14th.

"That is the principal reason why I am so anxious that it [the Presidency] be a continuing proposition, and that the successor to me, and the successor to him, can carry on as if no election had ever taken place."

CIA Makes Daily Report

Mr. Truman said that when he succeeded to the White House seven and one-half years ago from the Vice Presidency after President Roosevelt's death, it took him three months to read all the official documents he needed to guide him.

The CIA, which coordinates intelligence data, reports to him daily, Mr. Truman said, on "all the world, on everything that takes place from one end of the world to the other." He said the CIA's service "is not inferior to any in the world" and that the data it supplies is necessary in making decisions on government operations.

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Keep Ike Briefed, HST Urges CIA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21 (AP) — President Truman said today Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower "was rather appalled at all that the president needs to know", and he urged the Central Intelligence Agency to keep his successor as well informed as it did him.

The President spoke briefly at the closing session of the CIA's training orientation course for representatives of government agencies dealing with secret data. Some 300 or 400 persons were present to hear Truman in the Agriculture Department's auditorium.

"I don't think anyone realizes the immensity of the problems that face a president of the United States," the Chief Executive said.

"It was my privilege a few days ago to brief the general who is going to take over the office on the 20th day of January, and he was rather appalled at all that the president needs to know in order to reach decisions—even domestic decisions."